continuing basis with the aim of putting in place effective measures to control the activities of the various militant groups. The steps taken in this regard, *inter-alia*, include deployment of Central Security Forces, including Army, to assist the State police, sharing of intelligence, provision of assistance to the State Government for strengthening and modernization of the local police, raising of India Reserve Battalions, reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government, etc. The situation is being reviewed and monitored on a regular basis.

Relief to flood affected families in Orissa

1733. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa has recently been under severe floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of lives lost in these floods in the State;

(d) whether Government have provided relief to the affected families; and

(e) if so, the details and nature of the relief provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (e) As per the information received from the Government of Orissa, based on their preliminary assessment, 33 human lives have been lost, 19501 cattle heads perished, 1.60 lakh hectares cropped area, 9353 houses fully and 18457 houses partially were reported to have been damaged due to heavy rains/floods during 2007.

State Government has taken necessary rescue and relief operations in the affected areas which include evacuation of about 70290 persons to safer places, operation of 12 relief camps and 3 cattle camps, deployment of boats and providing essential commodities *viz.* readymade food, wheat, rice, chura, gur, salt, kerosene oil, matchboxes, candles, operation of free kitchens, etc. The State Government also took necessary steps to prevent outbreak of any epidemic in the areas affected by floods.

The basic responsibility for undertaking rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures in the event of a disaster is that of the concerned State Government. The distribution of relief on ground is the responsibility of concerned State. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support.

The State of Orissa has been allocated an amount of Rs.319.38 crore in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 2007-08 consisting of Rs.239.53 crore as Central contribution and Rs.79.85 crore as State contribution. The 1st installment of the Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 119.765 crore has since been released (Rs.58.66 crore on 24th August, 06 as advance in the wake of floods of 2006 and Rs.61.105 crore on 26th June, 2007) for carrying out relief operations in the floods affected areas.